

TRIBUTE TO OLYMPIC GOLD  
MEDALIST GABRIELLE DOUGLAS

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2012*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gabby Douglas of West Des Moines, Iowa for her outstanding accomplishments in the 2012 Summer Olympic Games. Gabby will be remembered by history as the first African-American individual all-around champion and as the first American gymnast to earn a gold medal in both the individual all-around and team competitions in the same Olympics.

Gabby has been training in West Des Moines under former University of Iowa gymnastics coach Liang Chow for nearly two years. Originally from Virginia Beach, Gabby has dedicated her life to gymnastics since enrolling when she was just six years old. In 2010, Gabby felt it was time to take her training to the next level and moved halfway across the country to train under Coach Chow and make her Olympic dreams a reality. While Gabby's move was not an easy decision for her mother Natalie, or her two sisters Arielle and Joy, Gabby's move to Iowa has been a wonderful experience thanks to her host parents, Travis and Missy Parton of West Des Moines. Gabby quickly became another daughter to her host parents and another sister to their four daughters, Hailey, Leah, Lexi, and Elissa. In London, Gabby's two mothers stood side by side as they cheered Gabby to a first place finish and into the history books.

Gabby Douglas has shown America, and the world, that anything is possible through hard work and dedication. She has taken her newfound fame with elegance and humility, attributing her success to her supportive families and unwavering faith in God. It is no surprise to those who know Gabby that her infectious positive attitude and incredible athletic ability has captured the nation's attention. Gabby returns to America both as a champion and as a role model for millions of young Americans.

Mr. Speaker, witnessing the historic achievements of Gabby Douglas has captivated the nation and the world. Miss Douglas has represented the very best of Iowa's work ethic and people on the international stage, and it is a great honor to represent Gabby and the Partons in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating Gabby, thanking her supportive families, and welcoming all of our athletes home from a truly historic Summer Olympics in London.

HONORING ELIZABETH AND  
HENRY SNIPES

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, the union of Elizabeth and Henry Snipes has blessed us with descendants that have helped to shape our nation; One such descendant being Mr. Maceo Snipes who was a World War II veteran; and

Whereas, their union produced many well respected citizens, today we honor all of the matriarchs and patriarchs, who are pillars of strength for the Snipes and Turner families; and

Whereas, in our beloved Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, we are honored to have many members of the Snipes and Turner families, whom are some of our most productive citizens in our District; and

Whereas, family is one of the most honored and cherished institutions in the world, we take pride in knowing that families such as the Snipes and Turner families have set aside this time to fellowship with each other, honor one another and to pass along history to each other by meeting at this year's family reunion in Atlanta, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Snipes and Turner families;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim, July 7, 2012 as Snipes and Turner Family Reunion Day in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 7th day of July, 2012.

THE GREATER KANAWHA VALLEY  
FOUNDATION

**HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2012*

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation on obtaining their National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations™ accreditation from the Community Foundations National Standards Board.

The Community Foundations National Standards Board was established as a supporting organization of the Council on Foundations, a nonprofit membership association of grant making foundations and corporations, to administer the National Standards. This board is responsible for upholding the quality, value, and integrity of the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations™, the first and only accreditation program of its kind.

In the United States, community foundations serve tens of thousands of donors, administer more than \$40 billion in charitable funds, and address the core concerns of more than 700 communities and regions. With such a presence—nationally and within local communities—comes responsibility.

Achieving confirmation and reconfirming compliance with National Standards is a rigorous process, guaranteeing that every community foundation that receives the designation has adhered to excellent philanthropic practice. This program requires community foundations to document their policies for governance, donor services, investments, grantmaking, community leadership, and administration.

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation of Charleston, West Virginia has obtained its National Standards accreditation by demonstrating a commitment to operational quality, integrity, accountability, and adherence to the highest standards for grantmaking.

On behalf of the residents of Charleston, I congratulate The Greater Kanawha Valley

Foundation on receiving its National Standards accreditation and commend the foundation's dedicated service to Charleston and communities in West Virginia.

HONORING CAPTAIN JOE MORRIS

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2012*

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Joe Morris, who retires from law enforcement after having completed over 40 years of outstanding service to his community and Western North Carolina.

Joe has shown devotion to upholding the rule of law and ensuring the safety of our mountain communities throughout his career. He began in 1964 as a Highway Patrol Officer, a position in which he excelled until he retired as a Master Trooper in 1985.

He later served as a Captain for Sheriff Homer Holbrooks at the Macon County Sheriffs Department until 2002. Joe once again returned to service the same year, working as the Jail Administrator and as a Captain at the Cherokee County Sheriffs Department. It is from this position that we can celebrate his retirement.

Through literally decades of service, Joe has shown extraordinary dedication to law enforcement in Western North Carolina, and as has had a particularly important impact on Macon and Cherokee Counties. As his nephew, I could not be prouder. Thank you, Uncle Joe, for all of your service to Western North Carolina.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JOHN  
BOULÉ II

**HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2012*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and service of a friend and constituent, Colonel John Boulé II of Plattsburgh, New York, and to congratulate him on his upcoming retirement. Col. Boulé has a long and decorated career, rising to his current position as Commander of the New York District for the Army Corps of Engineers. This country and the State of New York are fortunate to have benefitted from his years of dedicated service.

Col. Boulé graduated in 1986 from the United States Military Academy at West Point with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He went on to earn two Master of Science degrees from Stanford University, and later used those skills to help further the careers of fellow soldiers by teaching at West Point. Col. Boulé also served the Army in a variety of operational, command, and staff assignments in the U.S. and overseas including in Iraq, Somalia, and in New York at Fort Drum with the 41st Engineer Battalion, 10th Mountain Division. His decorated career includes the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, six awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Ranger Tab, and the Combat Action Badge.

In addition to his work overseas, Col. Boulé has been a positive force for change in New